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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

DEC 7 1983

MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF  
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

SUBJECT: New Data on Oftanol

TO: William Miller, PM#16  
Registration Division (TS-767)

FROM: Laurence D. Chitlik, DABT  
Section Head  
Section V, Toxicology Branch  
Hazard Evaluation Division (TS-769)

THRU: William L. Burnam, Chief  
Toxicology Branch  
Hazard Evaluation Division (TS-769)

*LD* 12/2/83

*WLB*

On 12/1/83, I telephoned Dr. Barry Wilson, Professor of Avian Sciences at the University of California at Davis to discuss his findings of delayed neuropathy relative to Oftanol exposure and request copies of any available data that could be sent to the Agency.

Apparently, only somewhat limited delayed neurotoxicity data is presently available (studies were designed primarily to assess antidotes for Oftanol and not specifically to assess the potential for delayed neurotoxicity), but other studies including a subchronic neurotoxicity study in hens are in the planning stage. All reports are to be sent to me as soon as possible.

Dr. Jim Knaak, a toxicologist in the California Department of Food and Agriculture was apparently visiting Dr. Wilson at the time I called and we briefly discussed the data submitted by the registrant to both EPA and CDFA. It quickly became apparent that registrant studies, other than those available to Toxicology Branch had been made available to CDFA; Dr. Knaak indicated that this new data was received from the registrant last summer. According to Dr. Knaak, these data demonstrated a significant inhibition of brain neurotoxic esterase. Such data if submitted to the Agency, would have prompted concerns of Oftanol related delayed neuropathy and this issue would therefore have been pursued previously by Toxicology Branch.

I would suggest to RD that registrant submissions submitted over the past several years be examined carefully for any such studies and that this issue also be followed through with the registrant.

See the attached memo by Dr. Mahfouz.

Attachment

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